Bud Fensterwald 510
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9/18/90

Dear Bud,

Brushing a bumper crop of pine cones off the lane so Lil won't turn an ankle on them having proven to be too much, I was sitting and reading and something that has troubled me since yesterday kept coming to mind, so I write you about it because you are the worry. What you have done to yourself and what can yet happen to you.

When reports of your involvement with Ricky White first started coming to me I tried to enlist Jim in getting you to see what he is really up to is a fraud. I feared you might misunderstand whatever I might say and I was certain that Jim knew more than I did. So, I suppose, too, because my information is not even second-hand.

What I heard yesterday is that you have a contract with Oliver Stone to be the experts or some kind of consultants in the documentary he has contracted with Ricky White. And thus, as this nonlawyer sees it, you have involved yourself in still another fraud, palming that stuff off as genuine. Aside from this there is what will happen to Stone's reputation.

I also heard that MATSU is suing Joe West and that Philip Dale Jordan is suing your center. I've known for some time that he planned a suit. Or at least had been informed that he did.

Then, although as a lawyer you should have been aware that it could kick back, you went public with your request that the state and local DA's look into it. They can't look into it without perceiving that there is fraud. You virtually begged them to charge you with fraud or involvement in fraud. Plus what this can mean to your center down there that seemed to mean so much to you.

Whether or not you realize it, and I don't know what it amounted to but have no reason to think it amounted to much, you have just killed it. The only question is how long death will be in coming.

Except for Gary Shaw and Mary I don't know any of the people in it and Mary does not seem to be active in it. What I've seen attributed to Larry Howard is sick and foolish and utterly irresponsible. If he is the one you had doing any checking for you, you had no checking at all because there is no indication in anything he has said that I'm aware of that reflects the minimal checking.

He didn't even check the phone book, as I did as soon as I read his crap about Roscoe White and Tippit being buddies who lived across the street from each other. They didn't even live on the same street. This is only one of the many details on all of which you, individually and collectively, flunk. Your stupidities down there then put together a press kit that I understand was ~~expensive~~ expensive. I've been given xeroxes that I suppose are complete but I don't know. But I do know that the copies I've been given leave it without question that your idiots included a police department record giving the Whites' correct address. So you/they knew that Ricky was lying on that count. One of the supposed significant coincidences.

Aside from what is obviously false, obviously cribbed and obviously misrepresented, when the faker gets into details he isn't even rational. The stuff he gushes does not even make sense. But without it he and whoever else is involved in his scam with him have no chance because they can't produce any real substantiation so they have to have something. Thus they went to two authors you helped, Popkin and McDonald, and cribbed from them. As they also did from a novel, Promises To Keep, by Bernau.

You people present yourself as experts, in general and to Stone, yet you swallow his rabid account of the Tippit assassination (for which see Bernau)? What in the world more than this did you need to show him to the door? Or did you hear about it and invite him in?

Over a period of weeks I've been hearing from coast to coast on this, and points in between, and I have no way of knowing what is so and what isn't. But I've also been given copies of many stories, on your press conference and of other stories, and I have what AP filed and isn't in any of the stories I've seen, and there is just so very much that at the very least should have made you stop and think and do some real checking, instead of asking those who love and gather all the nutty stuff they can to deal with reality, which it is clear they can't.

I think it also is past time for you to examine yourself on this and what you have and have not done, before you risk hurting yourself even more. You are not some green kid and you are an at least competent lawyer. (Which will hurt rather than help if anyone goes to court in any way.) How in the world, at the very, very least, could you not seek a devil's advocate on any of this?

How could you go for that crazy Tippit-killing business when you have to know that not a single detail in it can be possible? And there are many details in it and what relates to it, none possible.

Is it that you yearn so much to hurt those who failed us all, that you consider that anything that can embarrass the government is worthwhile, whether or not true? Is it possible that you haven't seen their internal records on this kind of thing and how they can and do use it to destroy all credibilty and to ridicule the authors? My files overflow on this and I remember once giving you a copy of what the FBI did with you and Sam Nunn. Which means that long ago you knew what you could and did do to yourself and your relations with people like Nunn.

What you have done, in addition to putting yourself and your reputation at risk, is to make it even more unlikely that anything real that may come to light will get any credibility anywhere.

Two of the TV stations we watch for the evening news had some coverage od your press conference for White and your face was in both. You didn't look a bit happy, to understate it. Yet you continued and continue?

I think it is past time for you to counsel with those who can be hardheaded and won't be afraid to call you a fool if they think so on all aspects of this because it is possible that some (additional?) effort will be made to call you to account. You should be ready. And let me tip you off on something: what you (pl) were supposedly trying to keep secret your own idiots down there were blabbing about. Including names, which is how I learned those names. Not directly, for none of those infants were in touch with me.

On the chance they did not tell you, I've been told that what White claims was the assassination of his father by the spooks, he and his mother sued and collected ~~for as~~ a defective-product case. Some checkers you have and trusted!!!!

I'd like to see White called to account on fraud charges but not you, which is why I now write. And have you asked yourself what will happen if the MATSU people decide that they have been defrauded? Can they collect anything from Ricky White? Or will they look elsewhere, which I think I suggested to Jim.

Why don't you ask yourself why you did not ask me to see if I could find anything wrong with what White was feeding you? And insist on a reasonable and credible answer.

I'm so sorry you got yourself involved in this awful mess and sorry that it can get still messier!

Good luck?

Harold